

Message Text

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ACTION H-01

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FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8346

C O N F I D E N T I A L WARSAW 1751

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OREP

SUBJECT: CODEL KENNEDY

REF: STATE 62375 AND PREVIOUS

1. DURING A CALL BY POLITICAL COUNSELOR SCANLAN ON ACTING DIRECTOR MFA DEPARTMENT III PAWLISZEWSKI ON OTHER BUSINESS, THE LATTER RAISED THE VISIT OF SENATOR KENNEDY. PAWLISZEWSKI SAID THAT, AS THE EMBASSY WAS PROBABLY AWARE, SENATOR KENNEDY WOULD BE COMING TO POLAND ON AN OFFICIAL VISIT APRIL 8-9 AND HAD ASKED TO SEE CARDINAL WYSZYNSKI. PAWLISZEWSKI SAID HE WANTED TO INFORM US THAT THE GOP DID NOT WISH SENATOR KENNEDY TO CALL ON THE CARDINAL.

2. SCANLAN ASKED IF THE SENATOR HAD ALSO ASKED TO SEE POLISH OFFICIALS. PAWLISZEWSKI SAID HE HAD AND SAID THE QUESTION OF EXACTLY WHICH POLISH OFFICIALS WOULD SEE SENATOR KENNEDY WAS NOW UNDER DISCUSSION.

3. SCANLAN THEN POINTED OUT THAT THE EMBASSY'S INFORMATION WAS THAT THE SENATOR WOULD ARRIVE IN WARSAW THE EVENING OF APRIL 17 AND LEAVE THE MORNING OF APRIL 19. PAWLISZEWSKI ADAMANTLY REPEATED THAT THE SENATOR WOULD BE HERE APRIL 8-9.

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4. ON THE SUBJECT OF A CALL ON THE CARDINAL, SCANLAN

POINTED OUT THAT THE SENATOR IS A PROMINENT AMERICAN LAY CATHOLIC WHO, ACCORDING TO OUR INFORMATION, IS COMING HERE ON A PRIVATE VISIT, IN THE SENSE THAT HE IS NOT ON OFFICIAL USG OR SENATE BUSINESS. ALL THE EMBASSY COULD DO WAS TO ASSIST AND ADVISE HIM AS IT WOULD ANY VISITING AMERICAN SENATOR. IN THE END THE SENATOR WILL MAKE UP HIS OWN MIND.

5. PAWLISZEWSKI INSISTED THAT SINCE SENATOR KENNEDY HAS ASKED TO SEE POLISH OFFICIALS, THE GOP CANNOT CONSIDER HIS VISIT PRIVATE AND WOULD NOT BE HAPPY WERE HE TO SEE THE CARDINAL IN A SO-CALLED PRIVATE CAPACITY. AS FURTHER SUPPORT FOR HIS CONTENTION THAT THE SENATOR'S VISIT COULD NOT BE CONSIDERED PRIVATE BY THE GOP, PAWLISZEWSKI SAID THAT THE MFA HAD INFORMATION INDICATING THAT NEWS-PAPERMEN AND TELEVISION CAMERAMEN WOULD BE ACCOMPANYING HIM. PAWLISZEWSKI CONCLUDED BY STATING AGAIN FIRMLY THAT AS FAR AS THE GOP IS CONCERNED THE SENATOR'S VISIT WILL BE TREATED AS AN OFFICIAL ONE.

6. SCANLAN THANKED PAWLISZEWSKI FOR BEING SO CANDID WITH REGARD TO THE POSITION OF THE GOP ON THE SENATOR'S VISIT AND OBSERVED THAT HE ASSUMED THAT PAWLISZEWSKI INTENDED THAT HIS MESSAGE BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE SENATOR'S SPECIAL ASSISTANT WHO WAS ARRIVING ON APRIL 1 TO MAKE ADVANCE ARRANGEMENTS. PAWLISZEWSKI SAID THAT HIS MESSAGE HAD BEEN FOR THE EMBASSY WHICH WOULD HAVE TO DECIDE FOR ITSELF HOW IT WISHED TO PROCEED. HE INDICATED THAT IF KING WISHED TO SEE ANYONE IN THE GOP ABOUT ARRANGMENTS FOR THE SENATOR THAT THE PERSON TO BE CONTACTED WAS THE CHIEF OF PROTOCOL, KALINOWSKI.

7. COMMENT: PAWLISZEWSKI'S EXTREMELY SERIOUS DEMEANOR AS HE VOLUNTEERED THIS MESSAGE INDICATES THAT THE GOP FEELS THAT IT HAS BEEN PLACED IN A VERY DIFFICULT POSITION BY THE SENATOR'S REQUEST TO SEE BOTH GIEREK AND THE CARDINAL. WE WOULD APPRECIATE GUIDANCE ON THIS QUESTION, IF POSSIBLE, BEFORE KING'S SCHEDULED ARRIVAL APRIL 1.
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